

SGA reclaims \$30,000 allotted for radio station use

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At its meeting Monday, the Student Government Association approved a measure rescinding its offer to give WVCW, the campus radio station, \$30,000 toward the purchase of an FM transmitter.

SGA Vice President Mike Hasley said WVCW has had an adequate amount of time, almost a year, to do something with the money, but they have not done so.

"We gave VCU's radio station a good chunk of money," he said. "I would just like to take our money back."

Hasley said the SGA could use the money, if the radio station isn't going to use it.

William H. Duvall, dean of student affairs, said the SGA never really gave the money to WVCW but instead set aside the \$30,000 to be used by the radio station if needed.

He added that if the SGA took back the money, it would be allocated to other student groups.

In an interview Tuesday, Jay Smack, general manager of WVCW, said the radio station has not used the money because he thought he needed a budget approval from the Student Media Commission. The SMC

is a panel of faculty and students who oversee the budgets for all campus media organizations.

"I haven't been able to get a straight answer," Smack said, explaining that he has not been notified about when the commission meets.

Smack also stressed that he was not informed about the SGA meeting on Monday, although Hasley said he tried to contact Smack before the meeting and was unable to reach him.

In other business, the senate, once again struck down a proposal to limit skateboarding on campus.

Skateboarding became a hot topic last fall, when the administration recommended that it be banned completely.

At that time the SGA said that it did not support a ban but would consider placing some restrictions on skateboarding. However, the senators vetoed the proposed guidelines that were suggested.

Sen. Thomas House, who proposed the guidelines in the fall, called for a re-vote Monday. Although the guidelines would be subject to approval by the administration, House said, the administration would like to work in cooperation with the SGA not against it.

The recommendations include:

- establishing a skateboarding club for students and non-students,
- relocating acrobatic skateboarding to Monroe Park,
- requesting that the VCU Campus Police enforce the restrictions,
- allowing skateboards to be used on campus for transportation purposes only,
- putting up signs that indicate skateboarding is prohibited,
- asking the university to accommodate skateboarders in its long-range planning by designating an area where acrobatic skateboarding could be conducted.

Sen. Jeffrey Kraus, chairman of the Student Services Committee, questioned VCU's authority to designate Monroe Park for such a purpose, but House assured the senator that the city and the university share authority over the park.

Executive Treasurer/Secretary Tim Burner and Sen. Cathaleen Bryant, vice chairwoman of the Appointments Committee, argued that the guidelines do not clearly state what will happen if a person refuses to leave campus when asked to do so by a police officer.

House said students simply would be asked to move to another area off campus,

and if they refused, they could be arrested for trespassing.

Bryant said this provision ought to be more evident in the guidelines.

Although the senate voted against the motion, House warned the group that the administration is going to do something about skateboarding with or without the support of the SGA.

In addition, L. Victor Collins, interim director for student activities, suggested that the SGA consider purchasing stage equipment for bands to use, instead of having to rent the items every time a band comes to campus.

Collins said that storage would have to be worked out with the physical plant, but the university would save money in the long run.

Also, Jonathan Bartee, chairman of the appointments committee, said that the committee has decided to make both Sean Dennison and Brian Wells senators, following a run-off election that resulted in a tie.

The committee cannot afford to hold another election to try to break the tie, Bartee said. The run-off election was held as a result of a tie for the School of Business during the regular SGA elections.